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ENG 1001-006: Composition and Language

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English 1001G--Composition & Language
 Fall 2006
 sec 006 8:00-9:15 TTh CH3160

Kathy Olsen
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 Phone: 581-6295
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office hours: T & Th 9:15-10; MWF 8-9 a.m. & 10-10:40a.m. or by appointment

texts:

The Blair Handbook

The Norton Reader

Writing Analytically

Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary

Online! A Reference guide to Using Internet Sources

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 1001G is a writing-centered course in which you will write as well as read expressive, expository, and argumentative essays of varying length. The reading and writing will take place both in and outside of class. During the semester we'll focus on learning how to organize, articulate, and develop your thoughts clearly and effectively. You will write at least one paper that will involve use and documentation of outside sources, and you'll also do some collaborative writing.

There will be quizzes given on the reading material. The frequency of these quizzes can, in part, be controlled by you. If, through discussion, writing assignments, etc., it appears that you are reading and thinking about the assigned material, the number of quizzes will decrease. Slack off on the reading, however, and back come the quizzes....

GRADING:

I. NOTE: To pass English 1001G, you must have a grade of A, B, or C at the end of the semester. Anything below constitutes a mark of "NC" ("no credit") and will result in you having to retake the course.

NOTE: An "NC" is not factored into your semester or cumulative GPA. For example, an "A" would count as a 4.0, a "B" as a 3.0, and so on, but an NC would simply show that you took the class but did not pass/did not receive credit.

II. In my class the final grade will be determined like this:

20% on quizzes, short homework and in-class writing assignments

10% on class participation

70% on essays (the first week's diagnostic essay is not graded. The first three essays are worth 10% each. The research paper is worth 20%, as is the final argument essay)

III. You will have the option of revising ONE of your first three essays. I will average the grade from the original with the grade on the revision. This new grade will replace the original or first grade. (e.g. if on Essay # 3 you first receive a C, and on the revision you get an A, the final grade for Essay # 3 is a B.)

IV. I use the Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Dept., a copy of which will be given to you. We will review and discuss these standards before your first graded essay is due, as well as throughout the semester.

V. You **MUST** turn in a research paper in order to be considered for a passing or a failing grade. Please understand that **simply turning in a research paper does not guarantee a passing grade**. Failure to turn in a research paper will automatically result in a grade of NC for the semester.

VI. If you fail to turn in one of the non-research essays and do not have a legitimate excuse, the grade for that assignment will consist of two F's instead of one; I don't think it's fair to give equal grades to someone who at least attempted the assignment but may have had problems, and someone who didn't even bother to make the effort.

ATTENDANCE AND LATE WORK

Attendance and participation are very important; this is not strictly a lecture class. I expect you to be prepared to discuss and question the material covered in class and in your writing and reading. If you are unable to attend class due to illness or other legitimate excuse (e.g. a true emergency, unsafe travel condition for commuters—not those walking from the dorms!—or participation in a recognized University-sponsored activity for which I have been notified in advance), **it is your responsibility to contact me about make-up work**. If you miss several consecutive classes and I don't hear from you, I have to assume that a) you have fallen off the face of the earth and therefore will receive a failing grade, or b) that you have dropped the class. It is not realistic to assume that you can miss three, four, five classes in a row with no excused absence and/or contact and still pass the class. **I will accept late work (homework and essays) only if you have an excused absence**—that is, a legitimate illness or situation such as the aforementioned.

Repeated failure to bring appropriate material (e.g. correct textbook, essay draft, etc.) and/or habitual tardiness will get you dismissed from that day's class.

I do give you the option of turning in ONE non-research essay of your choice one class day late. For example, if the essay is due on Tuesday I will accept it at the

start of class on Thursday but no later. **Unless prior arrangements have been made, you must be in class to turn in the paper—no sliding it into my mailbox or office. Other than this one instance, I will not accept late work unless you have an excused absence.** Quizzes are given at the start of class, so be on time, as these cannot be made up unless you have the excused absence. Please note that oversleeping and rides going home for the weekend are NOT excused absences!

CELL PHONES

If you need me to return your phone call, please do not leave a long-distance cell phone number. I cannot make long-distance calls from my office. Instead, leave me a dorm room number (581-xxxx), an email address, or speak to me during class or office times.

CONFERENCES

Twice this semester there will be mandatory individual conferences during which we'll discuss your writing, progress, grade, etc. They will be held near midterm time and during work on the research paper. We will not meet for class on conference days.

NOTE: I encourage you to schedule an appointment or just stop by my office throughout the semester if you have questions or difficulties with an assignment.

ESSAYS

Essays are to be done on computer. Final versions must be printed out. Papers need to be double-spaced with one-inch margins. Include name, essay number, date, and a creative title. You will need to include a separate audience analysis page. **Essays are due at the beginning of class. They must be printed out before you come to class.**

EIU POLICY ON PLAGIARISM

"Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism--'the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work'--has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources."

FINAL EXAM

Yahoo! There is no final exam in English 1001! We will not meet for class during finals week.

ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO

As an EIU graduation requirement, you are required to submit one essay per year to the electronic writing portfolio. The first EWP document (e.g. during your freshman year) must come from a 1000-level class that's classified as writing-intensive (e.g. English 1001). If you wish to submit an essay that you have written for my class, you must do so *during the semester that you are enrolled in the course*. You must also *discuss it with me, obtain my signature on the appropriate documents, etc. before Thanksgiving break*. **I will not be able to discuss EWP material during the last week of the semester, as well as during finals week.** You will receive more EWP details during the semester, and/or you can check out the website at www.eiu.edu/~access for further information.

WRITING CENTER

Occasionally I may refer you to the Writing Center, located on the third floor of Coleman Hall. The trained English graduate assistants are there to help you--free of charge(who ever said that nothing in life is free?)--with grammar, punctuation, and essay problems. **THEY ARE NOT PROOFREADERS.**

DOCUMENTED DISABILITIES

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please let me know about it; you should also contact the Coordinator of the Office of Student Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English 1001 sec 006
8:00-9:15 TTh CH3160

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COURSE SYLLABUS

PLEASE NOTE: Assignments are to be completed by the date on which they appear on the syllabus. This is a tentative syllabus; changes may be made as needed throughout the semester. Bring book(s) to class if requested or if a reading assignment is due that day.

WA = *Writing Analytically*
NR = *The Norton Reader*
Blair = *The Blair Handbook*

WEEK ONE

T(8/22) course introduction, policies, in-class writing sample
Th(8/24) audience, purpose, style. Read Blair pp 62-72 & 417-424

WEEK TWO

T(8/29) thesis. Read WA pp 198-207
Th(8/31) paragraphs. Read Blair pp 332-341

WEEK THREE

T(9/5) Read NR "Aria" pp 492+. Discuss Essay # 1 topic.
Th(9/7) in-class work on essay # 1 draft. Bring materials (TBA). Also read Blair pp 273-287 r.e. revising, editing

WEEK FOUR

T(9/12) in-class peer editing of essay # 1 draft. Bring materials (TBA). Also Review colons and semicolons.
Th(9/14) Discuss essay #2 topic. Read Blair pp 77-92.

WEEK FIVE

T(9/19) **ESSAY # 1 DUE.** Better sentences: concrete and abstract. Read Blair pp 390-394.
Th(9/21) work on essay # 2 draft. Also begin discussion of profile essay (AKA Essay # 3). Read Blair pp 203-207

WEEK SIX

T(9/26) peer editing of essay # 2 draft. Also discuss "True Worker" and "Soup" (both of these were handed out) **Turn in proposal for essay # 3**
Th(9/28) **ESSAY # 2 DUE.** Discuss "The Last Stop" (handout). Also read Blair pp 404-413 r.e. wordiness, redundancy. **Midterm conference signup**

WEEK SEVEN

T(10/3) NO CLASS THIS WEEK. INSTEAD, MEET IN MY OFFICE-3055-FOR

Th(10/5) MANDATORY MIDTERM CONFERENCE. BRING DRAFT OF ESSAY # 3 WITH YOU.

WEEK EIGHT

T(10/10) NO CLASS. CONFERENCES.

Th(10/12) ESSAY # 3 DUE. Return to class! Begin discussion of research topic.
Read Blair pp 172-186

WEEK NINE

T(10/17) research seminar in e-classroom. *MEET AT SOUTH DOORS OF BOOTH LIBRARY—DON'T GO TO OUR CLASSROOM!

Th(10/19) turn in tentative topic proposals. Also bring Blair to class.
Discuss notecards, use of sources, summarizing

WEEK TEN

T(10/24) Bring Blair. Continue discussion of paraphrasing, quoting. *Students show examples of good and bad electronic sources encountered during research.

Th(10/26) in-class notecard/progress check

WEEK ELEVEN

T(10/31) bring Blair. More MLA documenting info. Sign up for group conference

Th(11/2) bring Blair. Discuss Works Cited assignment, one more notecard/progress check. **LAST DAY TO TURN IN OPTIONAL REVISION**

WEEK TWELVE

T(11/7) NO CLASS THIS WEEK. MEET IN MY OFFICE FOR GROUP CON-

Th(11/9) FERENCES. BRING REQUIRED MATERIALS.

WEEK THIRTEEN

T(11/14) **RESEARCH PAPER (AND ALL SOURCES) DUE.** Review APA style.
Bring Blair to class. **LAST DAY TO GET MY SIGNATURE FOR EWP**

Th(11/16) TBA

WEEK FOURTEEN

11/21, 11/23 THANKSGIVING BREAK

WEEK FIFTEEN

T(11/28) Begin argument. Read Blair pp 110-119.

Th(11/30) more argument. Read Blair pp 120-129. Also read "Why Shouldn't Society..." and "Adventures In Equality" (handouts)

WEEK SIXTEEN

T(12/5) in-class work and/or peer editing of essay # 5

Th(12/7) **ESSAY # 5 DUE**